

the body through the town and collected money from the inhabitants by exhibiting the same.

As we advance into old age we all have our hours of reflection, and our minds revert to the past, and we draw comparisons with the present ; and as we take a retrospect along the march of time, how many changes we see in a life's journey. The town has been steadily progressive. Seventy years ago there was but one day school in the town. The National School in the Southam Road was established 1817, and a few years after the Infants' School at the top of Tink-a-tank. Since that period six other new day schools have been built, and the cry is still for more. The Parish Church, St. Mary's, was the only Church in the town. This was built on the site of the fine old Banbury Church, and was opened about the year 1797. Four other Churches have been built within the last sixty years, and in the same period seven Nonconformist places of worship have been erected. In the High Street alone upwards of sixty new houses have been erected, and many others greatly improved by new shop windows and other ways since I was a boy. Since the establishment of the Board of Health, over forty years ago, cleanliness has greatly improved the town. The Cemetery on the Southam Road was then made. It has been twice enlarged since. The blessings of sobriety have vastly increased in our midst. In my younger days I have seen many drunken brawls and much fighting in the streets, women as well as men being combatants, even on a Sabbath morn.

The recreation and pastimes of the people have undergone an agreeable change since I was a youth, when bull baiting, prize fighting, cock fighting, and dog fighting, and many other cruel amusements were permitted and freely indulged in.

In bringing these items of my lecture to a conclusion, I must ask my readers for their lenient criticism. There may be errors and inaccuracies, and, if so, it is pardonable, for the paper was written entirely from memory within the space of three months previous to the lecture being delivered.